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- (1) The former non-special pay rates of the special rate employees to ensure that any adjustment in the special rates of pay would not cause those rates to fall below the non-special rates of pay to which the special rate employees would otherwise have been entitled:
- (2) The likelihood that the factors leading to a statutory adjustment in pay will affect special rate employees as well; and
- (3) Other special rate pay adjustments that occurred prior to the date of the anticipated statutory pay adjustment.
- (c) Any adjustment in the special rates of pay shall be based on the factors in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section and shall not be made solely for mechanical reasons or for the purposes of providing automatic adjustments. Any adjustment must be based on the pay OPM determines is necessary in a given occupation and area to recruit or retain the special rate employees.
- (d) In conducting the annual review, OPM shall designate lead agencies for assistance in coordinating the collection of relevant data. All agencies are responsible for submitting complete supporting data upon request to OPM or the lead agency, as appropriate.
- (e) When special rates are adjusted as a result of this review, an employee's pay shall be fixed in the same manner as provided in §530.307 of this part.

[57 FR 59276, Dec. 15, 1992]

§530.305 Revising or discontinuing special salary rate schedules.

OPM and agencies shall initiate action to discontinue or revise special salary rate schedules when it is determined that these schedules are no longer needed, or no longer needed at existing levels, to ensure satisfactory recruitment or retention. No employee's pay shall be reduced because of such discontinuation or revision.

[50 FR 40178, Oct. 1, 1985, as amended at 51 FR 11007, Apr. 1, 1986; 51 FR 23036, June 25, 1986; 57 FR 59277, Dec. 15, 1992]

$\S 530.306$ Determining employee rates.

(a) *Initial establishment and increases.*(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, when an employee is in a posi-

- tion to which a special rate schedule becomes initially applicable or for which the special salary rate schedule is increased, the agency shall fix the employee's rate of basic pay at the step in the new or increased special salary rate schedule that corresponds to the employee's existing numerical step or rate of the grade or level.
- (2) When a special salary rate schedule becomes initially applicable to, or increased for, a position occupied by an employee who is receiving basic pay at a rate in excess of the maximum rate of the applicable rate schedule, the agency shall increase the employee's rate of basic pay as follows:
- (i) If the employee is retaining a rate under part 536 of this chapter or section 3594 of title 5, United States Code, the agency shall increase the employee's rate of basic pay by an amount equal to 50 percent of the increase in the maximum rate of the applicable rate range, except as provided in §536.205(d).
- (ii) If the employee is retaining a rate under an authority other than part 536 of this chapter (including a retained special rate resulting from the reduction or termination of a special salary rate schedule before the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 11, 1979), or section 3594 of title 5, United States Code, the agency shall increase the employee's rate of basic pay by the amount of the increase in the maximum rate of the applicable rate range.
- (3) When a special salary rate schedule becomes initially applicable to, or increased for, a position occupied by a GM employee (as defined in §531.202 of this chapter), the employee's rate of basic pay shall be determined under §531.205(a)(2) of this chapter.
- (b) Decreased and discontinued rates. (1) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, when the special salary rate schedule for a position is discontinued or decreased, the agency shall determine the rate of basic pay for an employee in the position as follows:
- (i) If the employee is receiving a rate of basic pay equal to one of the rates in the regular or decreased special salary rate schedule for the employee's grade